EQUAL RIGHTS

"MEN AND WOMEN SHALL HAVE EQUAL RIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND EVERY PLACE SUBJECT TO ITS JURISDICTION"

Amendment to the United States Constitution now before Congress

NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY, Washington, D. C.

Vol. 27, No. 11 NOVEMBER, 1941

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CENTRAL SERVICE RECORD
NOV 24 1941
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Meeting Of Many Minds

Eastern Regional Conference, and National Biennial Conference of the National Woman's Party, October 25, 26, 1941

THE recent joint meeting of the Eastern Regional Conference and of the National Biennial Conference of the National Woman's Party, held at the Hotel Dupont, Wilmington, Delaware, was a great success due to the combined efforts and indefatigable work of the Eastern Regional Chairman, Mrs. Alma Ambrose, of Baltimore, Md., of Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles, of Wilmington, Del., Past Chairman of the N. W. P., and now on its Executive Council, of Mrs. Caroline Lexow Babcock, Executive Secretary of the N. W. P., Mrs. Mildred Palmer, and others. Upwards of one hundred people enjoyed the sessions of the Conference and the delightful social functions provided.

EASTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

On Saturday, October 25th, the joint conference began with a business session, presided over by Mrs. Ambrose. This meeting was opened with prayer led by the Rev. Reitta Emerson, woman pastor of the Methodist Church.

At the luncheon following the invocation was pronounced by the Right Reverend Arthur R. McKinstry, Episcopal Bishop of Delaware. Guests of honor were the mayor of the City of Wilmington, the Hon. Albert W. James, the Hon. James H. Hughes, U. S. Senator from Delaware, and Mrs. Edith Robertson Bohn, a teacher in the Wilmington Public Schools. A letter was read from the Governor of the state as follows:

"I want to express my sincere appreciation for the invitation extended to me and, as explained, regret exceedingly that a previous engagement prevents my being in attendance. It is my great pleasure to greet the members of the Natl. Woman's Party on this, the occasion of their Regional Convention. You, and those assembled here are to be congratulated on your earnestness of desire and steadfastness of purpose and I hope at the conclusion of your session, you will feel entirely satisfied with your accomplishments. * * * As Governor of the State of Delaware I extend my very best wishes for the success of your convention.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) WALTER W. BACON,
Governor.

SOLITUDE OF SELF

By ELIZABETH CADY STANTON
Nov. 12, 1815 — Oct. 26, 1902

"The point I want to bring plainly before you on this occasion is the individuality of each human soul; our Protestant idea, the right of individual conscience and judgment—our republican idea, individual citizenship. In discussing the rights of woman, we are to consider, first, what belongs to her as an individual, in a world of her own, the arbiter of her own destiny . . . Secondly, if we consider her as a citizen, as a member of a great nation, she must have the same rights as other members, according to the fundamental principles of our Government. Thirdly, viewed as a woman, an equal factor in civilization, her rights and duties are still the same—individual happiness and development. Fourthly, it is only the incidental relations of life, such as mother, wife, sister, daughter, that may involve some special duties and training . . . In discussing the sphere of man we do not decide his rights as an individual, as a citizen, as a man, by his duties as a father, husband, brother, son, relations some of which he may never fill. Moreover, he would be better fitted for these very relations, and whatever special work he might choose to do to earn his bread, by the complete development of all his faculties as an individual. Just so with woman."

(Extract from address delivered by Elizabeth Cady Stanton before the House Judiciary Committee, January 17, 1892.)

Mayor James greeted the delegates.

Senator Hughes, in interesting fashion, recounted the recent previous history of the amendment. In July, 1937, he related, both Sub-Judiciary Committees, as in 1941, reported out the equal rights amendment favorably, to their respective full Judiciary Committees, and then as now, the House took the lead. At that time Senator Edward R. Burke, of Nebraska, was chairman of the Senate Sub-Judiciary Committee and Representative Zebulon Weavor, of North Carolina, Chairman on the House side. A public hearing, lasting four days, was held on the proposed measure in February, 1938, before the Senate Judiciary Committee, resulting in a report to the Senate, the first in fifteen years. After weeks of effort on the part of the proponents and opponents, the vote in the Senate Judiciary Committee stood 9 for and 9 against, resulting in a tie, but due to the tireless insistence of the Senators on the Committee who demanded a report, it was decided to report the resolution to the Senate (Mar. 21, 1938), setting forth the fact of the tie and submitting

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Equal Rights

Official Organ
of the
NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY
Capitol Hill Washington, D. C.
Phone Atlantic 1210

Published Monthly at
144 B Street, N. E., Washington, D. C.

Entered as second-class matter at the post-office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Subscription, $1.00 a Year
Foreign Subscription, $1.50

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Sue Brobst, A Tribute

By MARJORIE R. LONGWELL

Sue Brobst, who died on September 26, 1941, earned many an honorary distinction during her eventful career as business woman and organizer of clubs; but perhaps she would have preferred above all others just the plain title: *good citizen.* This she tried with all her heart to be, and was.

Those who knew her sometimes smiled at Sue's unquenchable fervor for her favorite topic: Equal Rights. But upon this important subject she was better informed than was almost any other woman in our country, if not in the world. Equal Rights was to Sue Brobst what Votes for Women was to Susan B. Anthony; and if these two crusaders had been contemporaries and met, they'd have no doubt become great friends.

It is interesting to learn that a grandmother and aunt planted the seed of Equal Rights in young Sue during her early childhood. She was brought up in Chicago with three boy cousins. "Now, Sue," the grandmother often warned, "it is all right for little boys to climb trees, but little girls can't do that." While Grandmother took an afternoon nap and Auntie failed to look out the window, Sue discovered girls could climb not only faster but higher than could boys. Soon she was leading her cousins in exploits beyond their masculine imaginations, and the worried mother of the boys, meting out punishment, least suspected that a little girl had led them.

When she was old enough to earn her living, Sue became a stenographer in the Remington Typewriter Company in Seattle. She almost immediately organized the office girls for a three-fold purpose: shorter hours, improved working conditions, and for their "own interests." She was sent to San Francisco in 1904 to take charge of the Remington office there.

It was perhaps symbolic that a major earthquake should have introduced Sue Brobst to life in California, for her thirty-year career in this state was to be anything but calm and serene. She weathered the "Quake and Fire," packed all her remaining worldly goods in a very tiny black bag, went to Sacramento for three weeks, and then came south to Los Angeles.

She obtained a temporary position in the Security Bank Building and one windy day was hurrying to lunch, hat blown down over her eyes, when she bumped into a very big man. The impact nearly knocked Sue off her feet. The man apologized, and they recognized each other. He was an old friend of Sue's family, Mr. S. C. Graham; and at the moment he was very much in need of a secretary.

Sue went to work in Mr. Graham's office and remained there as his "right hand man" for twenty-seven years, until his death. Mr. Graham helped to build Los Angeles; and in all his projects Sue played a prominent part. Often he remarked to friends that without her valued advice and help he could never have accomplished what he did accomplish.

In 1908 Sue began to work for Woman Suffrage: making speeches, holding meetings, trying to interest friends in "the cause." One of her first converts was Mr. Graham himself, and he became her ardent ally in the Suffrage fight. It was characteristic of Sue that she converted to this "cause" almost everyone whose life touched her own, not only during the Suf-

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Message From Alma Lutz

(ALMA LUTZ is the author of *"Created Equal, the Biography of Elizabeth Cady Stanton"*)

I AM greatly interested in the opening of the Library at Alva Belmont House and in the celebration of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's birthday, and am very sorry that I cannot be present. I should like to thank Mrs. Hilles in person for making the Library possible. Its opening on November 12th, the birthday of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, seems to me especially appropriate.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton was a great lover of books. She knew that books widened women's outlook and experience. She recognized the importance of books written by women about women. She knew that unless women recorded the history of their own progress and their fight for freedom, it would fade into oblivion. For this reason, even during the active years of her lecture tours through the West, she and Susan B. Anthony devoted themselves to the difficult and demanding task of writing the first three volumes of the History of Woman Suffrage. For this we today are very grateful, for these three large volumes crammed with facts are almost the only available source material of the early days of the woman's rights movement. Miss Anthony took charge of the material—that mass of newspaper clippings, handwritten letters and reports which had to be carefully read and edited. Mrs. Stanton did practically all of the writing. It was purely a labor of love for the cause which was so dear to their hearts. It brought them no reward but the satisfaction of handing down to future generations the story of women's vision of democracy and women's courage and determination to make that vision a reality.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton also knew that in order to complete their emancipation and to take their proper place in the world, women must not only inform themselves regarding their own legal and traditional disabilities, but must think in terms of the nation and the world. To do this adequately she felt they needed to take time out of their crowded, active lives for reading and contemplation. She wrote her good friend Clara Colby in 1887:

> "There is such a thing as being too active, living too outward a life. Most reformers fail at this point. In order to develop our real selves, we need time to be alone for thought. To be always giving out and never pumping in, the well runs dry too soon."

May this library at Alva Belmont House be a place where women may come to read, and in the words of Elizabeth Cady Stanton "think great thoughts for the future."

Alva Belmont Feminist Library Dedicated

On Wednesday, Nov. 12th, the one hundred and twenty-sixth anniversary of the birthday of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mrs. Ernest H. Daniel, Chairman of Commemoration Day Celebrations at the Alva Belmont House, was the hostess at a reception and a dedication of a Feminist Library.

Nora Stanton Barney, architect and granddaughter of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, spoke on "The Significance of Mrs. Stanton's Life to the Women of Today." The biographer of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Alma Lutz, sent a special message, which was read during the dedication ceremonies by Dean Grace Hays Riley of the Washington College of Law. Dr. George Leakin Sioussat, Chief of the Division of Manuscripts of the Library of Congress, spoke, and Mary Elizabeth

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the measure to the Senate for action. The equal rights amendment, therefore, was sent to the Senate.*

SENATOR HUGHES, Chairman of the Sub-Judiciary Committee of the Senate which has just reported the amendment out favorably, closed with conviction: "Your cause is just and will prevail. Sometime we shall all recognize the injustice that has been done a part of our citizens and in some way your fight will be won." The audience rose and acclaimed his remarks.

MRS. EDITH ROBERTSON BOHN, for many years head of the dramatics department of the Wilmington High School, now teaching speech in that institution, discussed "The Married Woman Teacher." In part she said:

"Marriage should have nothing to do with ability to work. All investigations prove that married women are equal or superior to unmarried women. The dismissal of married women started with the depression. There would have been legislation against married woman teachers had it not been for the work of the National Woman's Party. Many cities however kept married women teachers out.

"The second reason given for dismissing married teachers was because some married women are inefficient. The conclusion was then drawn that all are inefficient. Then the movement became political. Fathers who had unmarried daughters wanted jobs for them and so dismissals began.

"Thirdly, it was stated that marriage, and home life, and teaching, do not go together. It has been said that no woman can marry, run a home and teach. Dr. Paul Popenoe, noted authority on marriage, stated, 'If a woman is not inferior, she should marry. If she is not inferior then she is competent to teach. If inferior, she should not marry.'

"If the schools are turning out more teachers than are needed, then pick the best. Marriage deepens personality. It has been noted that among business and professional women there are few divorces. Most divorces come from the leisure class.

"But the child has something to say in this matter. A survey was recently taken in the State of Virginia concerning 250 teachers, one-half married and one-half single. Children in the fourth and eighth grades answered the questions. The survey was made on the basis of marriage, but the children were not told that fact. Eleven answers were in favor of married teachers. A majority of the children gave affirmative answers in favor of the married teachers to the following questions: (1) Who are the most prompt? (2) Who are the most dependable? (3) Who show the most sympathy? (4) Who are most refined? (5) Who show the best judgment? (6) Who are the most thrifty? (7) Who have the most character? (8) Who are the most inspiring? (9) Who have the best sense of humor? (10) Who are the most interested in current affairs? (11) To whom would you rather go for advice?

In closing, Mrs. Bohn said: "The education of the child is more important than the marital status of the teacher. Statistics show there are more points in favor of the married teacher, than in favor of the unmarried."

At 3:15 the registered delegates were transported in busses to "Nemours" at the invitation of Mrs. Alfred I. du Pont. We travelled through the lovely countryside for three miles, to the beautiful estate of the man who was at once a lover of the arts, a great industrialist and a far seeing philanthropist, whose generous deeds are known throughout the country. First, we visited the impetuous cascade of waters tumbling from the foot of the colonnade on which are carved the bas reliefs of Alfred I. du Pont and Pierre du Pont. In the background were beds of scarlet sage, begonias, and marigolds, a pageant of color. Then walking through the box maze we approached the generous home in the style of Louis XVI. Entering the hospitable hall, one is struck by art, combined with generous living. Treasures of artistic splendor are on every hand. A lovely wrought iron balustrade winds to the second floor. The many portraits, and framed photographs on the tables, bespeak a life of varied contacts.

We were graciously received by Mrs. Hilles, Mrs. Francis I. du Pont and Mrs. Alfred R. Shands. A generous tea was served, which charmed the eye and taste as well. We then visited the remarkable Alfred I. du Pont Institute, of the Nemours Foundation, dedicated June 14, 1941. This institute is dedicated for the healing of the crippled child. Here fundamental research is to be an integral part of the program. Dr. Alfred R. Shands, Medical Director, welcomed us and permitted us to tour the interesting, well-equipped building, now provided with beds for 85 patients. Every facility is afforded the medical faculty to assist and cure the children who come under their care. Throughout, the most charming color scheme will cheer and solace the inmates. Many children will go away cured and many more will be greatly assisted. Academic education is afforded from the kindergarten through the second year of High School.

BANQUET

The Banquet was brilliant and beautiful, a gauge of the affection in which Mrs. Hilles is held by her home city, as well as an indication of the lure of the excellent and stimulating program.

Five hundred people packed the beautiful ballroom of the Hotel Dupont. The historic purple, white and gold banners, carried by the White House pickets, during the suffrage campaign, were prominently on display. The American flag, and the colors of the State of Delaware, also often carried in many a votes-for-women procession, had a place of distinction near the speakers' table.

At her last public appearance, in 1905, Susan B. Anthony, speaking in celebration of her 86th birthday, said, in prophetic fashion: "Failure is impossible." These words, a legacy from the indomitable pioneer, were on display, as they always are where a group of N. W. P. women are gathered together. On entering the ballroom, the famous words: "Without extinction is liberty, without retrograde is equality," met the eye, words recorded on the Picket Pins won by White House Pickets. Great words, that kindle and warm the flagging spirit!

At the speakers' table were Mrs. Hilles, Mrs. Ambrose, Mrs. Wiley, the Right Reverend Edmund J. FitzMaurice, Catholic Bishop of Delaware, Senators James H. Hughes and Mrs. Hughes, Senator James M. Tunnell and Mrs. Tunnell, all of Delaware, Senator Harry H. Schwartz and Mrs. Schwartz of Wyoming, Senator Alexander Wiley and Mrs. Wiley of Wisconsin, Mrs. Katherine Harrington, Secy.-Treas. Bindery Women's Union Local 66 of New York and Mrs. Helen Robbins Bittermann, historian, author and lecturer of Columbus, Ohio.

Among the distinguished guests were Dr. Elizabeth Gatewood, Mrs. Victor du Pont, Mrs. Arthur Kenny and Mrs. Edwin Lord. The tables were marked to indicate the firms and places from which the guests

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*On May 5th, 1938, on a motion of Senator William E. Borah, the amendment was recommitted to the full Judiciary Committee, where it remained until the end of the 75th Congress. In the 76th Congress, the House Sub-Judiciary Committee reported favorably.

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came: Wilmington Trust Co., Joseph Bancroft & Sons Co., Industrial Trust Co., Quota Club, E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Braunsteins, Greenwood Book Shop, librarians, women physicians, teachers, Wilmington Hosiery Co., Delaware State Nurses Assn., Bird Speakman Co., Eugene of Paris, Business & Professional Women of Chester, Pa., B. & P. Women of Wilmington, The Pullman Co., Delaware Power & Light Co., Delaware Hardware Co., Kennard Pyle Co., Crosby & Hill Co., Allied Kid Co., Grand Laundry, Miller Bros., Government Workers' Council, Junior League, People's Settlement, Alfred I. du Pont Institute, Republican Women, Democratic Women, guests from Middletown, New Castle, Westtown, Pa.; Penns Grove, N. J.; Washington, D. C.; New York City, and Baltimore, Md.

Mrs. Ambrose presided.

The beautiful words of the Catholic Bishop of Delaware opened the program. The Chairman of the National Woman's Party, Mrs. Wiley, in her greetings, rehearsed briefly the encouraging happenings of 1941, signs of promise for the future of the amendment, and they are many.

Mrs. Hilles presented the guest speakers of the evening, first introducing MRS. HELEN ROBBINS BITTERMANN, who said in part:

"If American women are to have their rightful, full, participation in the life about them, they must not be swept aside from the main stream and segregated as a special labor group."

"There is no longer any need for special laws for women only. The conditions of the job, rather than the fact that a man or woman holds the job, should be emphasized. It is just as vicious for young men to work long, hard hours for little pay as it is for young women. If we women are to concern ourselves with the welfare of society, we must be realistic about it. We have been too romantic. We have permitted ourselves to be cajoled and flattered into the background of life. We have been swept out of the kitchen, where real work is done and real plans are made, and put into the parlor to sew a fine seam, while the vital jobs of life pass us by. And this is our own doing, because we have considered ourselves a cut above the rest of humanity, deserving different treatment from the rest of humanity.

"It is not only that women cannot keep their jobs when laws are passed compelling them to work under different conditions than men do, the great hurt that special laws do for women is that they have prevented women from becoming people. There may have been need for special treatment in the past. But that time has gone. The federal government has spoken. Men and women are to be treated alike in industries engaged in interstate commerce. If conditions are bad for women, they are equally bad for men. And now we *can* do something about that. But the menace of special legislation increases with the disappearance for its need. The time is here when American women must take an active part in the preservation of their country. We must not have shackles put about our ankles. We must not permit ourselves to be pushed into the backwash of life. We must take our fair part in the shaping of things to come. And we can only do that as the equal partners of men in this country. If we romantically assume that we are a little better than our brothers, we are like ostriches with our heads in the sand. We are human beings. There is no greater thing on earth than that. And as human beings, we are facing the challenge of civilization. It rests in our hands, whether we are facing that challenge or creep back to our overstuffed parlors, defeated by our own cowardice and our failure to face life with the courage that went into the making of this country."

SENATOR HARRY H. SCHWARTZ, of Wyoming, made a stimulating address on the topic "The Wyoming Constitution—the precursor of the Equal Rights Amendment." We wish there was room to give the speech in its entirety, but the full text can be found in the Congressional Record for October 27, 1941, page 5136. Excerpts are given of this wonderful address which won much applause from the audience present:

THE TERRITORIAL LAWS OF 1869, AND THE WYOMING CONSTITUTION—PRECURSORS OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

The privilege to speak here this evening confers on me high honor which I deeply appreciate.

Here are assembled leaders in the campaign for complete equality and justice for women in this greatest and most enlightened nation on earth. * * * One of our continuing objectives is to secure submission and adoption of an amendment to our Federal Constitution declaring:

"Men and women shall have equal rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction.

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

That Congress soon will submit this proposed amendment to the several States seems reasonably assured. That a sufficient number of the States will ratify, there can be little doubt.

I shall not discuss the fourteenth and nineteenth amendments and the court decisions interpreting and construing them. Exhaustive and able criticisms on the subject are in the books and the records of your organization. The fourteenth amendment was adopted to confer citizenship on the emancipated Negro and to protect him as a citizen. Under court decisions it fell far short of securing equal rights to women.

My lighter and more pleasant assignment is to talk on Wyoming territorial laws and experiences, and our State constitution and present laws, insofar as they are relevant to equal rights for men and women.

WYOMING

Inasmuch as Wyoming was first to enact legislation granting woman suffrage and other equal rights with men, I feel our legislation and our subsequent experience thereunder will be of interest to you. * * *

The early settlers in what is now the State of Wyoming came principally from New England, the South, and Central East. Later we received additions from Scotland, Ireland, and other parts of Europe. What we lack in numbers we make up in the high quality of our citizenship.

The Territory of Wyoming was created by Congress in 1868, and our first territorial legislature met in 1869. That first legislature enacted the first law in history granting woman the right to vote and hold office. It reads:

"SECTION 1. Every woman of the age of 21 years residing in this Territory may, at any election to be holden under the laws thereof, cast her vote. And the right to the elective franchise and to hold office shall be the same under the elective laws of the Territory as those of electors."

The bill passed the council (now the senate) without debate. Opponents centered their opposition in the house. There the opposition resorted to every weapon descending from argument and dilatory motions to ridicule. Arguments, such as they were, have long since sunk into the limbo of things forgotten. Motions were made and promptly defeated to strike the word "woman" and substitute "ladies," to strike "woman" and insert "Negro women and squaws." The reference to Negro women was an appeal to the prejudices of certain house members recently come from former slave States.

Credit for the enactment of that statute is due to two men. It was introduced by Col. W. H. Bright, a Democrat, who rendered distinguished service in the Confederate Army during the War between the States. The bill was signed by Col. John H. Campbell, Governor, a Republican, who served with equal distinction in the Union Army during that tragic contest.

Governor Campbell, originally opposed to equal suffrage, was converted to the cause before coming to Wyoming by listening to an address made by Susan B. Anthony.

A later legislature passed a bill to repeal this law of 1869, but Governor Campbell killed the attempt by his veto.

Colonel Bright was influenced and inspired to introduce the law of 1869 by Mrs. Esther Hobart Morris, an educated and brilliant pioneer wife and mother residing at the South Pass Gold Camp, situated high up on the Continental Divide.

I could add nothing to that which you already know about the militant pioneer leader in your cause, Susan B. Anthony.

But something should be said about Mrs. Morris, although even much of that is familiar to many of you who have read the excellent history of the 1869 struggle to secure this legisla-

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tion, written by Dr. Grace Raymond Hebard, formerly of the faculty of our State university.

In that early day western mining camps were infested with crooked gamblers, outlaws, and other disreputable characters; and the cattlemen were sustaining heavy losses from cattle and horse thieves. Road agents frequently robbed stagecoaches of express shipments of gold, and the passengers of their valuables. The law-abiding citizens of Wyoming territory were unable to control these lawless elements. Numerous military posts were attempting to protect the people and the overland trails from hostile Indians.

Mrs. Morris, long an advocate of equal rights for men and women, agreed to accept the office of justice of the peace if a law were enacted authorizing women to vote and hold office.

After the bill became law, one of the three justices in Sweetwater County resigned in order that women might try where men had failed. Sweetwater County was 280 miles long and about 100 miles wide. Mrs. Morris was appointed and served. She was fearless and energetic. She dealt out even-handed justice to the lawless elements, often with an iron hand without a velvet glove. She also bound over to the district court men who were later convicted of felonies. The example she set aided in bringing law and order to the territory.

First Justice of the Peace

The office of justice of the peace is the oldest people's court in English history. The office was created in 1327. Throughout the centuries it has been, and is today, an important tribunal. Mrs. Morris was the first woman justice of the peace. * * *

Wyoming State Constitution

When Wyoming became a State in 1889 we adopted a constitution, approved by the Congress. I shall read but two of its provisions:

"Article VI, section 1—Equal rights: The rights of citizens of the State of Wyoming to vote and hold office shall not be denied or abridged on account of sex. Both male and female citizens of this State shall equally enjoy all civil, political, and religious rights and privileges."

In the Wyoming constitutional convention it was seriously proposed that this equal-rights article be omitted from the constitution, and presented as a separate resolution asking Congress to consent to its inclusion. Wiser counsels prevailed, and the article went into the constitution as submitted to Congress for approval. The majority of the convention was willing to risk the loss of statehood rather than adopt a constitution which did not recognize women's equality with men.

Section 3 of Article I of the State constitution reads:

"Equal political rights: Since equality in the enjoyment of natural and civil rights is made sure only through political equality, the laws of this State affecting the political rights and privileges of its citizens shall be without distinction of race, color, sex, or any other condition whatsoever other than individual incompetency, or unworthiness duly ascertained by a court of competent jurisdiction."

Since early territorial days our laws have given women full right to vote, to hold elective and appointive offices, to practice the professions, and to engage in any employment. There are some few limitations: By a provision in our State constitution no girl or woman of any age shall be permitted in or about any coal, iron, or other dangerous mines for the purpose of employment therein. Boys and girls over 14 years of age and women may do clerical work in offices about such mines. However, children are required to attend public or parochial schools until 16 years of age unless they sooner graduate from the sixth grade.

Under State laws enacted in 1895 and 1899 grand and petit jurors must be men, notwithstanding the full-equality provision of the constitution I have read. * * *

Wyoming elected the first woman State Governor in the Nation, Hon. Nellie Tayloe Ross, and the first woman justice of the peace in history, Mrs. Morris. Wyoming women have been elected State superintendents of public education, members of the House and Senate in the legislature, mayors of cities and towns, and members of school boards. At present 41 women hold elective county offices, and hundreds hold appointive official positions. As in other States, they conduct, or are in private employment in offices, business houses, and industry. Women serve on the board of trustees of our State University.

Our women practice the professions with great credit. * * *

In seeking support for this amendment I trust we shall appeal to neither sentiment nor to that nebulous thing called man's chivalry toward women. Our weapon will be reason, supported by justice and the actual accomplishments of women in every walk of life. * * *

In closing, the Senator pointed to the Anthony banner, amid great applause.

The next speaker, MRS. KATHERINE HARRINGTON, Secretary-Treasurer, Bindery Women's Union, Local 66, New York, spoke on the topic "What a working woman thinks of the Equal Rights Amendment." She said, in part:

I was very happy when I was asked to come here and speak to you tonight and also to express the viewpoint of working women on the need of enactment, into the Constitution of the United States, of the Equal Rights Amendment.

As the representative of four hundred members, as well as my personal contact with about 500 more, who are affiliating with us, I can assure you that today these women realize more than ever that the Amendment will secure for them the equality they desire as free citizens under our Constitution. For women workers in the field of bookbinding to maintain the standards of living which the Union has secured for them through years of effort, they find it is absolutely essential that they have equal opportunity with their brother workers.

The Allied Printing Trades have generally been clear on the subject of equality.

It was the printers who first announced through the Typographical Union that the status of a member had nothing to do with sex. The Typographical women workers receive equal pay and conditions with men workers.

Some years ago, however, outsiders, who became interested in labor and started out to organize the unorganized, became confused in their thinking and put through legislation, over the protests of workers legislated for. This legislation hurt all working women. This refers to the prohibition against women working between 10 P. M. and 6 A. M.

The Typographical Union, after their women holding good jobs were dismissed, because of the Labor Laws affecting them, woke up, and started to put through legislation that finally gave them exemption from the law for their members.

The International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, of which my Union is a member, has always recognized the equality of its members. There have always been two women vice-presidents on the Executive Council.

This year the Bindery Women's Union, Local 66, of New York, in order to be free from this legislation that handicapped them for years succeeded in establishing the right to work and defend its members against lower standards, by an act to amend the State Labor Law, in relation to the employment of female bindery workers.

In this connection, it is interesting to make mention of Mrs. Mary Murray, Chairman of the Industrial Council of the N. W. P., who many years ago was left a widow, with five children, the oldest being seven years and the youngest one year. Having only a small insurance she got a job to support herself and her children as a ticket agent on a railroad. Today, after 40 years of work, with four fine grandchildren, she is still working. For more than 19 years Mrs. Murray has been president of the Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit Women's League. This organization came into existence in 1919 after the so-called protective laws (the 8-hour law and the curfew law for women only) threw women out of work on the railroad, almost 3,000 women, just in New York City and Brooklyn. It was a pitiful sight. Women had been working on the Brooklyn-Manhattan since 1888, 32 years before suffrage was won. They worked in harmony with the men, on equal terms and received equal pay. Women had been able to take care of their health and morals all those years. Then without their knowing anything about it, a group of women, in New York City, told the legislators that we were down-trodden and that we wanted this bill. The bill was passed. Then the Brooklyn-Manhattan Transit Women's League came into existence. The women members took money from their wages and sent representatives to Albany, before the legislature and Governor Al Smith, and the same legislators, who passed the protective legislation, amended it in 1920 when they heard the plea of the B. M. T. women. I also had been an agent and guard on trains in 1917-18.

It was pleasing to learn that at the Convention of the New York State Federation of Labor held this year, the Culinary Workers Alliance introduced resolutions, one to amend the

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Eastern Regional Conference

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Labor Law prohibiting the employment of females in restaurants between 10 P. M. and 6 A. M., and another to provide that no male be employed in any industry at wages below the minimum fixed for women and minors.

Today women engaged in mills, factories, farms, offices of Government, aviation and many, many other fields of business, have proved to the world their fitness and ability to compete equally with their fellow-workers in the same fields of endeavor. Therefore discriminatory legislation on the basis of sex should have no place on our statute books, because such legislation denies to women the same freedom of life which is guaranteed under the Constitution of these United States to men.

The Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution will remove all misunderstanding that the true principle of equality between men and women of this nation was what the founders of our Constitution intended for a free people.

Furthermore, the Equal Rights Amendment to our Constitution will place indelibly in the minds of all American men and women, that the term "man" includes "male and female" and that the rights of all citizens, of this republic, are equal.

I have entirely converted my father and my brothers to my way of thinking. The Bindery Women's Union has endorsed the amendment and will continue to fight for its passage by Congress.

The last speaker of the evening was SENATOR ALEXANDER WILEY, of Wisconsin, whose topic was "America's First Line of Defense." We can only give excerpts from this eloquent address, due to lack of space.

AMERICA'S FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE

I consider it a great privilege to visit with you women. * * * You are thinkers. You use the greatest invention of all—the mind that the Master Inventor gave you. With it, you see first things first, and that real values are things of mind. You know that they are the only treasures that will cross the River of Death. * * *

This is, as you know, no time to lean back and rest on the oars. I know you are awake to the responsibility of living in this stupendously challenging age. You are not afraid. You are not smug and complacent. You are awake. * * *

This is the day when we must separate the dross from the pure gold—finding the inherent value of the ancient virtues of thrift, of industry, of honesty; realizing (individually and as a nation) fully the value of freedom of worship, freedom of the press, freedom of speech; recognizing that in trying periods men and women can live gloriously, because then they are in action—the action of free men, seeking more light, a broader horizon, a larger view. * * *

We know now that the great values of life, which have cost thousands of years of human endeavor and sacrifice, can only be maintained and retained by the vigilance and integrity of those of us who have inherited these great values. * * *

You women are destiny makers. And, my friends, not in Washington but at the fireside of American homes will America's problems be solved! There we will find the answers or solutions to the problems of pillage and poverty—economic and political stalemate—yes, and the answer to the questions of war and peace.

In a very real sense, America's first line of defense is found in the hearts and minds of its people. The American woman is an integral part of that first line of defense.

The American woman has always lent strength and idealism to every achievement of our people throughout our entire history. In 1619 it was the arrival of women immigrants which gave new impetus to the Virginia Colony in 1634, in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, women suffered along with men the toil and privation and the poor crops of those harrowing years.

Before the Revolution, the American woman wove homespun cloth, made the tallow candles and played her part in conquering a wilderness. She played that role in the old Colony—in the old colonial New England and in the Middle Colonies—and women like Molly Pitcher did their part in the Revolution.

In 1790 women traveled the famous wilderness road from North Carolina and south Virginia through the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky and Tennessee. They were hardy pioneer women who traveled along wild mountain paths on horseback. American women descended the Ohio River from Pittsburgh or Wheeling on rafts.

After the treaty of Ghent, thousands of them traveled toward the fertile region of the trans-Alleghenys, and thousands more migrated east of the Mississippi and north of the Tennessee.

The American woman moved west from the Carolinas and from Georgia to the cotton and rice fields in Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. Some of them riding in heavy wagons crossed the Mississippi River into the territory of the Louisiana Purchase. As early as 1806, American women crossed the southern pass of the Rockies on the Oregon Road.

It is small wonder with these hardships behind them that on May 24, 1844, an American woman should dictate as the first message to be sent over a telegraph instrument the passage from Numbers 23—"What hath God wrought."

Just a little over two decades ago the American woman secured through the 19th Amendment the privilege of the franchise.

For twenty-one years the American woman has become accustomed to the tools of democracy. Through the influence of the American woman for the forces of progress, for individual and civic morality, for education, for religion, for the great American freedoms—these have prospered.

After 1865 we know that women began to enter into a great many fields of industry, public life and business which had previously been limited to men. We know that during this period the so-called emancipation of women was accelerated and ever since that period, the American woman has continued to exert an ever-increasing influence on the pattern of American life.

I believe that today the American woman is confronted with the greatest challenge in our history.

To begin with, the American woman can give strength and vitality to the front line of our American defenses. The first line of American defense has always been—and always will be—found in the hearts and minds of our people. So long as that line of defense stands unbroken, just so long are our American institutions, American freedoms, American homes and American ideals secure.

American women today can do a great deal to mold morale. Civilian morale is a vital part of national defense. Women throughout the country can bolster that morale. They can do so, first of all, by an educational campaign which rearms our belief in American institutions and American ideals—a campaign which seeks in the simplest language to make clear American values—material and spiritual. * * *

I have faith that the American people will meet the challenge which confronts them. I have every faith that the American woman will be a vital and determining factor in effecting the highest possible degree of morale and in making the home front impervious to any assault.

In that hope and in that faith, I conclude.

At this point the Senator dramatically said:

"You women have a right to go to Congress with your equal rights amendment; you have a right to consideration of the amendment by the Judiciary Committee and by Congress; you have a right to have the amendment sent to the states for ratification, and I shall support you."

The audience listened spell bound to as eloquent an address as has ever been given to an N. W. P. gathering and cheered at its close.

At the close of the banquet Mrs. Ambrose read aloud the greetings from the following friends and advocates of equality between men and women: The Governor of Delaware, Senators Guy M. Gillette, Joseph Guffey, Charles McNary, Arthur Capper, Representatives, Louis Ludlw, Francis E. Walter, George H. Bender, ex-United States Senator John G. Townsend, Jr., Democratic Committee Women Emma Guffey Miller, Clara D. Vanauken, President, Michigan State Federation of Democratic Women's Clubs, Elizabeth Stellwagen, President, Joint Council of Arizona Women, Estelle Bjerg, Vice-Chairman, N. W. P. Jane Norman Smith, Amy C. Ransome, former Editor of EQUAL RIGHTS Helen Hunt West, Florida Chairman, N. W. P. Ethel Ernest Murrell, Members National Council N. W. P. Elizabeth T. Kent, Alma Lutz, Marguerite Smith.

Biennial Conference Of The National Woman's Party

THE National Biennial Conference of the National Woman's Party met for two sessions at 10:30 and at 2:30, on Sunday, October 26th, in the DuBarry room of the Hotel Dupont, the Chairman, Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, in the chair.

The meeting opened with the salute to the Flag and the Lord's Prayer.

The new National Secretary, Dr. Margaret Sebree, was introduced. Dr. Sebree, retiring Chairman of the Government Workers' Council, recited the work done by that Council during the year, and introduced her successor, Mrs. Page Kirk, the great-great-great-granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson. Dr. Sebree has recently accepted the appointment of Chairman of the National Membership Committee.

The Treasurer, Miss Laura M. Berrien, gave the Treasurer's report for the year, ending with the statement, "All expenses are current, all bills paid."

Mrs. Dora G. Ogle made encouraging reports as Director of Alva Belmont House and as Business Manager of EQUAL RIGHTS. She also read the report of Alma Lutz, Chairman of the Literature Committee. All these reports may be had on application.

The Chairman appointed the following to act as a Resolutions Committee: Mrs. Edwina Austin Avery, D.C., Chairman; Mrs. Edna S. Capewell, N. Y.; Mrs. Mildred Palmer, N. Y.; Mrs. Karl Greene, New Mex.; Mrs. Catherine Dobbs, Ohio; Mrs. Helen Robbins Bitterman, Ohio, and Mrs. George Halsey, Md.

Mrs. George Mesta, Congressional Chairman, reported progress and Anita Pollitzer appealed successfully for pledges to carry on the work.

The theme of the Conference "How to bring the Constitution up to Date by the Immediate Passage of the Equal Rights Amendment," was discussed by various speakers. Mrs. Margaret Wood Patterson, of Pennsylvania, spoke on methods of forming new branches and told of the active new group working in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles explained the technique of a successful banquet. Mrs. Dobbs, one of the young adults of the Democratic Party in Ohio, said:

> "Today in the world crisis young adults are coming more and more to the philosophy and principle of the Equal Rights Amendment in their thinking of what may be one of the greatest attributes of world democracy—equality. Today when time is precious, in the defense of democracy, both foreign and domestic, young adults are looking toward tomorrow, for they realize that they must face the future with the strong fibre that builds for character and leadership. Only on the basis of equality of opportunity for men and women can youth hope to build a just and lasting society."

A telegram was presented to the Conference by Mrs. Alicia Esteva Williams from Enrique Ortega, Director of Tourism for Puerto Rico as follows:

> "Once again the people of Puerto Rico through the Institute of Tourism of the Government of Puerto Rico extends to your organization its most cordial greetings and best wishes for the success of your meeting. Puerto Rico, pioneer in recognizing women's rights, will consider it an honor if one of your conventions be held in the Island of Puerto Rico, where you will receive the welcome of all our people and assurance of our heartiest cooperation."

The Chairman immediately suggested a pilgrimage to Puerto Rico and sent return greetings to Senor Ortega.

Olive Hurlburt, past chairman of Michigan, who flew to the Conference, told of recent happenings in Michigan and spoke with satisfaction of the election of the new Wayne County Circuit Judge, Lila M. Neuenfelt. Judge Nuenfelt has made an outstanding record as a Judge in the City of Dearborn, Michigan, where she has been elected and re-elected 5 times. Mrs. Edna S. Capewell, Acting Chairman of the New York State Branch, told of the success attending the plans to celebrate the birthday of Elizabeth Cady Stanton in Johnstown, N. Y., November 12, where Mrs. Stanton was born. As we go to press, word comes to us that Governor Lehman has proclaimed November 12th, Elizabeth Cady Stanton Day and called upon all citizens of New York to commemorate it suitably.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hatfield Schnabel, Chairman of the Pennsylvania Branch in discussing the theme "The Truth Will Make You Free" said in part, "The greatest menace to freedom is inertia. If people think at all, they are content to believe what they want to believe, whether it is true or not." She quoted Gertrude Atherton as saying, "Men and women are merely human nature under two different labels." "They are two horns from the same cow," continued Mrs. Schnabel. "We have learned that there is no scientific proof of any sort to be found that sex alone determines superiority. The Equal Rights Amendment is legally sound, geographically simple, socially secure, politically sane and economically safe. Freedom is not only a question of the law, it is a *habit of the mind.*"

Doris Stevens gave an eloquent and moving talk on our individual responsibility to be people who are significant. Mildred Palmer discussed the problem of reaching out in all directions with the message of Equal Rights.

The resolutions, which were adopted, follow:

No. 1

Whereas, the Constitution of the United States does not guarantee to the women citizens of the nation the same rights and protection that men enjoy; and

Whereas, the unity of this nation can be achieved only through the equality of its citizens under the law; and

Whereas, this unity and equality under the law will not be attained until the Constitution is brought up to date by the adoption of the Equal Rights Amendment, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, That the men and women of Wilmington and Conference members of the National Woman's Party assembled in the Hotel Dupont on October 25th, 1941, call upon the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and of the House to advance the Equal Rights Amendment immediately with favorable reports, and

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Conference be instructed to send copies of this resolution to every member of the Judiciary Committee.

No. 2

Whereas, this National Biennial Conference is historical in the fact that it is the first joint conference of a National Biennial Conference and a Regional Conference, therefore,

RESOLVED, That the members of this National Biennial Conference express to the Eastern Regional Conference their appreciation for the cooperation on the part of the officers and members of the Eastern Regional Conference which made this joint conference possible and such a success.

No. 3

RESOLVED, That the N. W. P., in Biennial Conference assembled, request the governors of the forty-eight states to set aside November 12th, each year, as Elizabeth Cady Stanton Day, as a perpetual day of commemoration of her great achievements, and that copies of this resolution be sent, by the secretary of this conference, to all the said governors.

No. 4

RESOLVED, That this Biennial Conference of the N. W. P. assembled in Wilmington, Del., October 26th, 1941, express to the family of Sue Brobst, and to the members of the Women's

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Biennial Conference Of N. W. P.

(Continued from Page 95)

Legislative Council of California, of which she was the founder, their sympathy in the loss of this devoted advocate of equality between the sexes, and that this Resolution be sent to her family and to the Women's Legislative Council of California and published in EQUAL RIGHTS.

No. 5

RESOLVED, That the members of the Biennial Conference of the N. W. P. extend to Mrs. Florence Bayard Hilles their thanks, and warm appreciation, for unstintingly giving of her time and effort to make this Biennial Conference a success, and for insuring the comfort and entertainment of all attending members.

No. 6

RESOLVED, That this 1941 Biennial Conference of the N. W. P. express, through its secretary, by appropriate letters, the deep appreciation of its members, and of all women interested in the equality movement, to Senator James H. Hughes of Delaware, Chairman of the Sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, in charge of the equal rights amendment in the Senate, and to Representative Francis I. Walter, of Pennsylvania, Chairman of the Sub-committee of the House Judiciary Committee, in charge of the equal rights amendment in the House, for their devoted leadership, in giving great impetus to the whole movement for the passage of the amendment, during this session of Congress.

No. 7

RESOLVED, That the members of the Biennial Convention express to Representative Thomas D'Alesandro of Maryland, their hearty commendation for his action in introducing bill H. R. 5272, July 9, 1941, to extend the provisions of the D. C. minimum wage law to men, and call upon all our members to support the passage of the bill and that a copy of this resolution be sent to Mr. D'Alesandro.

No. 8

RESOLVED, That the N. W. P., in Biennial Conference assembled, demand that the International Labor Organization, sitting in New York City October 27 to November 6th, accept its full responsibility as a representative of all the workers of the civilized world, by recognizing the equality of men and women in industry, by recommending to the member countries a convention stating that all laws and regulations governing industry shall apply to the nature of the work and not to the sex of the worker.

(NOTE—This Resolution was taken to Columbia University, by Mrs. Edna Capewell, Chairman, N. Y. State Branch, and presented to the office of the Director. Telegrams were also sent asking that it be read aloud to the Conference and referred to the proper committee for action. A letter just received from Mr. E. J. Phelan, Acting Director of the I. L. O. Conference, states: "The text of your resolution has been communicated to the delegates of the Conference of the I. L. O.")

(No. 9—see page 97)

A Good Amendment

On the anniversary of the adoption of the Woman Suffrage Amendment, the *Boston Herald* commented editorially under the question, "A Good Amendment?"

There should be no question regarding the Woman Suffrage Amendment in the mind of anyone who believes in a democratic form of government. It was a good amendment because it extended one of the basic rights of free, representative government to women. Its effects have been good, if not sensational. Every constructive effort of democratic government should be encouraged these days instead of being questioned or patronized.

"One wonders," read the editorial, "if the world is better today than it would have been had men clung to their exclusive voting rights." And we wonder if the *Boston Herald* regards the ballot as a divine dispensation to men. The *Herald*'s speculation is stupid and dangerous, and shows little understanding and comprehension of the trouble that purely man-made governments have brought to the world today. The nations that have ruled women out of public life—Germany and Italy—are the answer.

Alva Belmont Feminist Library Dedicated

(Continued on Page 90)

Downey, formerly Librarian of the U. S. Constitution Sesquicentennial Commission, was introduced as the Librarian of the Alva Belmont House. Miss Downey announced the Library would be open every Saturday afternoon from 2:30 to 4:30, with the Librarian in attendance; and at other times by appointment; that the first event would take place on November 19th, at 8:30, a private reading of "Laughter" by the author, Dr. Jeannette Marks, author of the "Family of the Barrett" and formerly head of the English Department at Mt. Holyoke; and that a seminar would be conducted on Thursdays from 7 to 8, the first subject being "Problems Relating to Women" and the text book used, "Of Men and Women" by Pearl Buck.

Dr. Luther H. Evans, Assistant Librarian of the Library of Congress, represented Dr. Archibald MacLeish, Librarian of Congress.

Presiding over the dedication ceremonies was Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, Editor of EQUAL RIGHTS.

To the Chairman of the Library Committee, Florence Bayard Hilles, and to the Director of the Alva Belmont House, Dora G. Ogle, are due the thanks of all booklovers for the transformation of the Old Coach House, once the coach house and stable of the Sewel property, into a library where books of women, by women, for women, may be consulted. The architect of the restored building is Elise Dupont. The lighting, color and fireplace are peculiarly adapted to study and quiet thought, so insisted upon by Mrs. Stanton and her daughter, Harriot Stanton Blatch. The library gives on the garden which has beauty and peace the year round. On the shelves can be found feminist history, science, philosophy, poetry, biography, autobiography and fiction. First editions are there, old copies of feminist classics going back to the eighteenth century, and new treasures just off the press. Messages from many authors were received.

CAROLINE LEXOW BABCOCK, *Ex. Secy.*

World Woman's Party

A resolution send by the World Woman's Party reading:

> The World Woman's Party, composed of women working for equality between men and women throughout the world, calls upon the I. L. O. to bring its governing Constitution into harmony with the principle of equal rights for men and women—so that all future Conventions of the I. L. O. would be based upon the principle of equality, and so that there would be both men and women in all delegations to future I. L. O. Conferences.

was also presented to the N. Y. meeting by Mrs. Edna S. Capewell, Acting Chairman of the N. Y. State Branch.

THE SUBJECTION OF WOMEN AND THE TRADITIONS OF MEN

By DR. MAUDE GLASGOW

An authentic history down the ages. Reduced from $3 to $2 for the holidays; 341 pages.

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CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Six Subscriptions to EQUAL RIGHTS for $5.00

Sue Brobst, A Tribute

(Continued from Page 90)

frage campaign, but down through all the years that followed Suffrage into Equal Rights. It was almost impossible not to see eye to eye with Sue when she presented facts in her friendly, cheerful way. She was never militant; she never antagonized.

About this time (1908) Sue began to make a serious study of Parliamentary Law, and conducted classes for women upon this subject in Mr. Graham's office in the evenings. These evening meetings were proof of Sue's super-abundance of energy which carried her into after-working-hours activities that would have exhausted the average woman. No easy chair and early-to-bed evenings for her!

In 1911 Sue Brobst organized the Business Women's Civic Club, and here she displayed a remarkable ability to see potential qualities of leadership in individual women. She was able to bring out these qualities and make the most of them. Many a woman who has achieved prominence and importance in the business or professional realm in Los Angeles today will admit that it was Sue Brobst who first encouraged and inspired her to active ambition.

In 1913 she became interested in the idea of providing for domestic workers a recreational center where their hours "off" might be spent pleasantly. Soon Sue Brobst was devoting every Sunday afternoon and Thursday evening to these forgotten women, meeting them in the parlor of a house which she had rented, singing songs with them about the piano, organizing games and dances.

Meanwhile the Business Women's Civic Club was flourishing. Feeling that women should make their influence felt upon as many fronts as possible, Sue Brobst helped to organize the Women Lawyers' Club, Women's City Club, Women's Chamber of Commerce, and the Los Angeles Elementary Teachers' Club. From the Women's City Club evolved the Business and Professional Women's Club, the County Federation of Women's Clubs, the Woman's Athletic Club, and the Women's Vocational Guidance Clinic.

All this organization involved a mountain of work for Sue, and Mr. Graham was heartily in accord with her view that before women could hope to take their place beside men in the professional and business world, they must prove themselves capable of doing "big things." But while he gave Sue invaluable advice upon many details, he felt that what with eight daily hours at her desk and many evening hours spent upon the various club projects, she was overtaxing her strength. "Go home now and rest," he would tell her at five o'clock in the afternoon. "I know that you have excellent health, but you are placing too great a strain upon it." Sue would smile, nod, wish him a cheery good-bye. Much later she would let herself into the dark office, light the desk lamp, pour over organization affairs until early morning.

In 1927 she founded the Business Women's Legislative Council of California, an organization whose purpose is "to assist in bringing about the adoption of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and to oppose discriminatory legislation, rules and regulations based upon sex and/or marital status." As president of this organization, Sue made frequent trips to Sacramento while the California Legislature was in session, and personally helped to defeat many a proposed bill devised to put married women back into the home, or to give protective legislation to women workers. An unmarried woman herself, Sue Brobst was at her best when brilliantly defending a "married woman's right to a pay check" and she vigorously fought all proposed laws which, by giving women shorter hours and higher wages than men, "protected" them out of their much-needed jobs.

In 1940, as Equal Rights Chairman for the California Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Sue won many California legislators to her viewpoint in regard to a State Equal Rights Amendment. So thoroughly did she pave the way for this bill that her friends assured her of complete success in one more legislative year . . . little suspecting that in 1942 she would not be with them.

About 1934 Sue was appointed Chairman of the Susan B. Anthony Memorial Committee of California by the National Woman's Party to assist in the campaign for a Susan B. Anthony stamp. This became a reality in 1936; and, from this beginning, the increased interest and understanding of Miss Anthony's greatness has resulted in the establishment of a number of Anthony memorials in this State, to all of which Sue gave great encouragement and assistance.

At the time Sue was engaged in the Anthony Memorial project a friend remarked to her: "Someday there may be a Memorial for Sue Brobst." "Nonsense," she answered, laughing heartily. "What in the world have *I* ever done to deserve a Memorial?" *That was Sue.*

In her first public speech, long ago, a youthful Susan B. Anthony declared: "If you say you love the cause, and then sit at your ease, surely does your action speak the lie." Well, it could never be said that Sue Brobst "sat at her ease." And perhaps the Memorial she'd most appreciate from us would be less sitting at *our* ease, while so much is still to be accomplished upon the battle front where Sue Brobst fought her good fight.

Helen Hunt West

Helen Hunt West, of Jacksonville, Fla., former editor of EQUAL RIGHTS and now a member of the National Woman's Party's Executive Council, has announced from her home in Florida that she plans to be a candidate for Congress in the Second Florida Congressional District in the primaries next Spring, to succeed Congressman R. A. Green, who has announced his intention to give up his Second District seat and seek election to Congress from the State at Large.

The Florida *Times Union*, commenting on Mrs. West's announcement, says:

"Mrs. West expressed the belief that the forthcoming elections will be the most important in the history of American democracy, as they will determine the character of leadership during the post-war period, which history shows is always one of confusion and depression.

"Mrs. West," says the *Times Union*, "has long been identified with the political, social and economic life of Florida. She piloted through the Florida Legislature in 1935 the existing law giving women equal representation with men on the executive committees of political parties. This measure—a pioneer piece of legislation in this field—is regarded by political economists as one of the most constructive political measures enacted by this or any other State."

Referring to her work for woman suffrage, the *Times Union* further states:

"At present she favors writing into the Constitution of the United States an equal rights amendment, pointing out that such an amendment would extend to women the legal rights other citizens already enjoy. 'It would make effective,' says Mrs. West, 'the citizenship extended them by the suffrage amendment. In other words, it would strengthen our nation's democracy by completing it at a time when our government is urging democracy for all people.'"

Resolution of Appreciation

No. 9.

Whereas, the National Chairman, Mrs. Harvey W. Wiley, is serving the National Woman's Party brilliantly in a threefold capacity in that in addition to the arduous duties of National Chairman she is the outstanding editor of EQUAL RIGHTS and the careful, thoughtful, painstaking Chairman of the House Committee; therefore

RESOLVED, That the Biennial Conference express to the National Chairman its heartfelt thanks for her loyal and unstinting devotion to the cause of equality.

(Biennial Conference, October 26, 1941—see page 96)

ORDER NOW FOR CHRISTMAS

Copies of These Books Sold through the National Woman's Party Earn Money for the Equal Rights Amendment Campaign:

Of Men and Women, by Pearl Buck. John Day, N. Y. 1941 ..... $2.00

Created Equal, the Biography of Elizabeth Cady Stanton by Alma Lutz. John Day, N. Y. 1940 ..... $3.00

Challenging Years, The Memoirs of Harriot Stanton Blatch by Harriot Stanton Blatch and Alma Lutz. Putnam, N. Y. 1940 ..... $3.50

Jailed for Freedom by Doris Stevens Boni, Liveright, N. Y. 1920 ..... $2.00

The Great Woman Statesman, Susan B. Anthony by Nanette Paul, N. Y. 1925 ..... $1.00

The Winning of the First Bill of Rights for American Women by Mabel R. Putnam. Milwaukee. 1924 ..... $2.00

Cogitations And Conclusions

MAUD DUVAL WILLIAMS
Member, Typographical Union

JOY OF WORK

WE ARE not talking accurately about the problems of women in industry if we forget the real joy that women take in a job which gives them any opportunity for expression of their powers. Those powers are varied and they find expression in different types of occupations. There is such a thing in industry as real joy in work. Women are gaining an increasing sense of power throughout economic independence. Because of it, they desire to break down the prejudices which exclude them from certain occupations.

In spite of the fact that domestic service is always suggested by the average woman as an alternative for the working girl whose life is beset with danger, the Federal report on "women and child wage earners in the United States" gives the occupation of the majority of girls who go wrong as that of domestic service, and in this it confirms the experience of every matron in a rescue home, and the statistics in the maternity wards of the public hospitals. The report suggests that the danger comes from the general conditions of work. These general conditions are the loneliness of the life, the lack of opportunities for making friends and securing recreation and amusement in safe surroundings, the monotonous and uninteresting nature of the work done as these untrained girls do it, the lack of external stimulus to pride and self respect, and the absolutely unguarded state of the girl except when directly under the eye of her mistress.

Jane Addams in her book "A New Conscience and an Ancient Evil" states that "for all statistics of prostitution give the largest number of recruits for this life as coming from domestic service, and the second largest number from girls who live at home with no definite occupation whatever."

WHY WOMEN'S WAGES ARE LOW

Under laws which limit and restrict women, making them wards of the state, instead of citizens of the Republic, there can be no equality of opportunity. Women are bound to be regarded as secondary workers and their wages fixed accordingly.

For example—let us imagine ourselves employers. We put an ad in the paper for a cook; an applicant appears; we like her and her references are good, but when we discuss her work, we find she can only work eight hours a day. She cannot stay overtime, no matter how much extra we would pay, neither can she work at night, even in an extreme emergency; but, that is not all. We find this applicant is restricted to certain processes of the cooking job, because she is a woman. She cannot lift the ice in the icebox if it is over a certain weight; she cannot use a meat chopper nor the carving knives. These are dangerous machines, and finally, she cannot light the gas stove. For these processes, we must secure the services of a man. What would you do in this situation? Hire an unrestricted man, of course, or secure the woman at a reduced wage.

It costs more to employ women than men, on account of the numerous legal restrictions concerning the employment of female workers. Factory laws require many appliances for the protection of women and children employees, which are not so rigidly demanded in the case of men.

SECLUSION OF WOMEN INHERITED FROM THE ORIENT

The laws "built up through generations to shelter women in industry" are a relic of the days when "a sickly delicacy was supposed to be an essential part of feminine charm."—The days when even the famous Dr. Johnson (according to Boswell's Life) thought painting an "improper employment for a delicate female."

Samuel Gompers said: "Woman's work has been hampered and shadowed by old ideals that never had a meaning except for a select few. According to these ideals women were to be sheltered from the conflicts and the hardships of the work-a-day world. . . . The few who benefited by this policy purchased special consideration at the price of rights and opportunities."

CHANGE IS THE LAW OF PROGRESS

Carlyle points out in his "Sartor Resartus" that sooner or later all our garments become threadbare and have to be patched, or else discarded for new and more fitting garments. So it is with all our institutions, systems, laws, customs, beliefs and ideals. Even the best of them we outgrow and they no longer fulfill the original purposes for which they were intended. We feel the time has come when humanity must discard these outworn, outgrown sex laws, beliefs, traditions and superstitions, and fashion for itself garments more fitting to present day 20th Century needs.

MINIMUM WAGE

It would seem that our opponents fail to distinguish between the ethics and humanity on one side and economics and practical administration on the other. The advocates of the minimum wage confuse the economic doctrine of a living wage with that of a compulsory minimum wage fixed by law as a universal code.

The minimum wage is a matter on which the statistics are inadequate and unconvincing. We must take into consideration that the minimum wage in most other countries is for men, women and children in restricted industries.

Let us make our premises clear. We do not argue against a minimum wage. We believe in a living wage for the worker, regardless of race, color, creed or sex. If the unorganized industrial woman is in need of a minimum wage, so is the unorganized industrial man. Let us bend the industry to meet the needs of the weakest worker; rather let us legislate to protect human beings.

Prof. Frank A. Fetter, of Princeton University, says: "A minimum wage law, by itself, neither cures the industrial incapacity, nor insures employment to the industrially weak at any wage. The law does not attempt to compel employers to employ at the legal minimum wage every one who wishes to work. It merely declares that the employer shall not employ any one whom, in his employ, he finds not worth so high a wage."

The Massachusetts Minimum Wage Law is anything but a success, according to a report from the A. F. of L. organizer, Frank H. McCarthy, of Boston, who says, in regard to the general effect of the law, "My opinion is that greater progress would have been made without the law than with it, as the workers would then have

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Cogitations and Conclusions

(Concluded)

had no false notion about protection and would realize that they had to depend upon themselves."

WOMEN MUCH IMPROVED BY GAINFUL PURSUITS

The improved strength and stature of modern women is a fact that is obvious every hour of the day. Where are the puny, fragile damsels, ready to faint at the least start given to their nervous system, of the early Victorian period? Thackery tells us that the heroine of "Pendennis" was actually 5 ft. 4 in. in height, "so that she was called tall and gawky by some, and a May-pole by others of her sex." 5 ft. 4 in. a gawky May-pole, think of it! and judge how low was the average of women in a day when a writer did not make himself ridiculous by describing so moderate a height in such terms. There can be no other answer than that the lives of modern women are more conducive to health than were the lives of the purely domestic ones of the past.

SEPARATION OF ADULT WORKERS MAKES FOR INEQUALITY

You cannot separate the adult male or female worker sometimes working side by side in a factory, by special legislation linking women with minors—without limiting and restricting women, and thereby doing them a great injustice.—Failing to protect the unorganized man and worst of all making it necessary for the mothers, without support, to put their children out to work in order to make up the family income.

We cannot pretend that special laws affect only the women who seemingly most need protection. A legal principle or right either exists or it does not exist. If the state has the power to say (with alleged general welfare as an excuse) when and where and at what some women can work, it has that same power over all of us women all the time.

COMPLETE EQUALITY OF THE SEXES ESSENTIAL

Dr. Lester F. Ward, a president of the American Sociological Society, says: "The past has always been characterized by inequality of sex. The future will be characterized by greater and greater equality. The inequalities that have been inherited from the past prevail, to a large extent, in the present, and most persons assume that they are natural and necessary. There could be no greater mistake. Nothing in the history of the world justifies such an assumption. The movement, now begun, cannot stop until complete equality of the sexes is attained . . . When complete equality shall be reached, and not until then, the human race will be really ready to begin its career. Handicapped by this worst of all inequalities, it has thus far been incapable of any great action.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

When women were first admitted into colleges, the authorities came forward with every imaginable sort of pessimistic prophecy. The warning was given out "that women would collapse all over the campuses from the mental strain, especially during periods, and that they would emerge from the universities sterile." Time has proved the fallacy of this contention.

MAUD DUVAL WILLIAMS.

Women Are Citizens

In answer to the question, "Should women be conscripted?" Raymond Gram Swing commented in the *Christian Science Monitor:* "I find it rather repellent to consider women as apart from other citizens, since I'm a feminist by conviction and marriage. The whole purpose of the feminist movement was that we stop saying women and begin to say persons. There are many families in America where the women are equal in responsibilities to men, and where children are looked upon as individuals. In so far as you get that, you have a free society. I think women ought to be registered for conscription but not that they should be exploited as the German girls were when they were put on farms to get cheap labor."

WOMEN BUILD WAR WINGS

In an article by Malden Grange Bishop, in the Wilmington, Del., Sunday *Star* of Aug. 3, it is stated:

> "If you are a young woman between 18 and 35 years old, in good health and have at least a high-school education, there are about 100,000 brand new jobs open to you. * * * Never before in the history of the airplane have production lines contained women. * * * Careful studies have indicated that women can handle many of the jobs, and the use of women would have a healthy reaction upon the community life as a whole. * * * Tests thus far seem to indicate that the married women do better work, adapt themselves more readily to aircraft jobs. * * * Aircraft men have nothing but contempt for the woman who uses her sex as an excuse for her work. The woman who makes a success in aircraft production must catch the spirit of the men, must appreciate their attitude and must forget she is a woman."

STITCHING ON PLANE THAT SANK BISMARCK WAS DONE BY MA COSKEY

In an article by Vesta Kelling, A. P. staff writer, Washington *Post,* Aug. 19th, it is stated that "When the German battleship Bismarck was located, trailed and marked for destruction by an American-built flying boat, Mrs. Veronica A. Coskey, 185-pound New Jersey blonde, had the satisfaction of knowing that she had done the hand-stitching of the airplane's fabric parts." The article further relates that Mrs. Coskey began sewing as a woman for aircraft in 1925. She has sewed some fine seams for Admiral Byrd's Josephine Ford, the plane which carried him to the North Pole and his America which spanned the Atlantic. She repaired Lindbergh's Spirit of St. Louis after it made its first solo Atlantic flight. She is in charge of the covering department of the Brewster Aeronautical Corporation of the Newark Airport.

Something to Consider

According to an article in the bulletin of the International Council of Women, there are actually more men milliners than women. "Men," says the article, "have been taking women's jobs for a century. Some women have followed their jobs outside; that is all."

"To the extent that women compete with men for jobs," says the writer, "should men be given the preference? Suppose all jobs were to be given solely on a basis of need. How should we go about it? Should we establish in every employment centre, boards to which every person working for himself or for others must go for permission to continue, or if out of work, for a permit without which he could not be employed?"

A Feminist Thinks It Over

By ALMA LUTZ

"THE WOMAN THOU GAVEST ME"

"THE woman Thou gavest me" is in the news again. True to form Adam is blaming Eve for the faults of both. According to press reports of a speech made recently by Colonel Baer, Chief of Staff of the 2nd Corps Area, American boys are soft and it is all due to women's leadership. It seems that young men of 1941 lack the zeal of those of 1918. They are not flocking to Plattsburg to enlist in the Officers Training Camp. Colonel Baer thinks this lack of enthusiasm for war is the fault of women. He says, "We turned over our sons to women to educate them, and we laughed or threw up our hands when they talked about pacifism. In other words, during these past years, we resigned our leadership." He quotes the opinion of a European woman—that American men are charming but no good because "America is a matriarchy and the men have abdicated."

These remarks of Colonel Baer would not be worth noticing if similar sentiments were not being repeated far too often. The world is in a sorry state and the easiest thing to do is to blame the women. That is what Mussolini and Hitler did, and ruling women out of public life, they built up a race of warriors free from the influence of women. Perhaps Colonel Baer has forgotten that the countries in which the influence of women is nil are the very ones which have brought about the present world situation.

Women have exerted some influence for peace, and perhaps if they had had a part in making the peace terms after the last war and had had a real share in international conferences in the intervening years, the world might not be in its present plight. Women are less war-like and more constructive in their outlook than men. They feel keenly the folly of bringing children into the world only to have them killed in wars of conquest. But women do not cry, "Peace at any price!" They are keenly alive to dangers which threaten their homes and the welfare of their families. They are not soft nor cowardly. In all ages they have in one way or another come to the defense of their homes and their countries. They face danger and disaster with courage. They readjust admirably to changing conditions. They valiantly rebuild their lives and the lives of their families in the face of great odds. No, Colonel Baer need not fear the influence of women, but he might well fear the stifling of that influence.

If men have neglected the training of their children, and I believe they have, this is not the fault of women. Men have preferred business to sharing home responsibilities. They have preferred business to teaching in the schools. They have devoted themselves to the game of money-making with the zeal that previous generations put into war and pioneering. They have given their sons and daughters too many luxuries, too little discipline, and too few ideals. If the younger generation are soft, and I doubt it, this is the cause. It cannot be blamed on the influence and leadership of women.

This leadership-of-women idea is a myth. Government, international policy, business, in fact our whole philosophy of life is dominated by men. Women vote and in a measure influence legislation. A few women hold public office. Women in greater numbers than ever before are supporting themselves and managing their financial affairs. Advertisers have found them good bait and have played up their potential purchasing power and their influence. But so far as actual power and leadership goes, women have not even tasted it. There are both legal disabilities and traditional barriers which stand in the way. Women, dominated by men and barred by tradition and convention from sharing the work of the world, have as yet exerted only a limited influence.

When women develop themselves after their own pattern and not after the pattern and ideal of some man, then and then only can we begin to talk of women's influence. Then we shall approach that fifty-fifty cooperation of men and women in government, in business, in the schools, and in the home, which progress demands.

Pilot International

By HELEN HUNT WEST

It was a privilege and pleasure to attend the 20th anniversary of Pilot International Oct. 18, 19, 1941, as the representative of the N. W. P. Because of the inability of our Chairman to be present, I brought to the celebration in Macon, Ga., birthplace of Pilot International, the cordial greetings of the N. W. P. Attending the affair was for me an added pleasure, because for one year, while a member of the D. C. Pilot Club, I served Pilot International as its Legislative Chairman. At that time Mrs. May Pynchon, of Florida, was President.

As one of the national organizations of women campaigning for the Equal Rights Amendment, Pilot International has taken an active part in working for submission by Congress of this all-important amendment to the states in order that they might vote on the extension of a full share in democracy to women citizens. It was, therefore, particularly interesting for me to note that, while this meeting was entirely in the nature of a celebration and not a convention, nearly two hundred and fifty delegates, representing many states, were in attendance.

Sally Butler, of Indianapolis, Ind., National Treasurer of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, also a sponsor of the Equal Rights Amendment, was a distinguished guest.

In addition to extending the greeting and joining in the anniversary celebration, which involved a banquet, a breakfast and an old-fashioned southern barbecue, I participated in a radio interview on the subject of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Mrs. E. C. Hall, of North Carolina, President of Pilot International, made a splendid address at the banquet, one of the most scintillating, interesting and well delivered feminist speeches it has ever been my privilege to hear. Mrs. Dennis, of Eatonton, Ga., prominent Georgia clubwoman, touched on the high spots of woman's place in the sphere of things.

Pilot International's Wilda Richardson did a splendid job in making everyone feel at home, and Marguerite Jackson, Macon Club President, together with all the Macon members, made the anniversary celebration a memorable event.

DEC. 41 on Your Wrapper MEANS Your SUBSCRIPTION HAS EXPIRED!